

**STATEMENT OF BASIS (AI No. 2283)**

for draft Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit No. LA0059544 to discharge to waters of the State of Louisiana.

**THE APPLICANT IS:** Ohmstede, Ltd  
St. Gabriel Plant  
P.O. Box 76  
St. Gabriel, LA 70776

**ISSUING OFFICE:** Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)  
Office of Environmental Services  
Post Office Box 4313  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

**PREPARED BY:** Molly McKean

**DATE PREPARED:** June 27, 2008

**1. PERMIT STATUS****A. Reason For Permit Action:**

Permit reissuance of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit for a 5-year term

**B. NPDES permit -** NPDES permit effective date: N/A  
NPDES permit expiration date: N/A

**C. LPDES permits -** LPDES permit effective date: August 1, 2003  
LPDES permit expiration date: July 31, 2008

**D. Date Application Received:** February 1, 2008

**2. FACILITY INFORMATION****A. FACILITY TYPE/ACTIVITY - fabrication and repair shop**

Ohmstede, Ltd is an industrial fabrication facility manufacturing and repairing tubular heat exchangers. The facility operations include welding, machining, and limited dry blasting. Welding and blasting activities are conducted inside. Only previously cleaned equipment is repaired at the site.

**B. FEE RATE**

1. Fee Rating Facility Type: minor
2. Complexity Type: I, BPJ - no discharge of process wastewater
3. Wastewater Type: III
4. SIC code: 3443

**C. LOCATION -** 4250 Hwy 30, St. Gabriel, Iberville Parish  
Latitude 30 14' 42", Longitude 91 03' 44"

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### 3. OUTFALL INFORMATION

#### Outfall 001

Discharge Type: sanitary wastewater, hydrostatic test wastewater, small volume shop wastewater (defined as spot cleaning, cooling spray, and shop floor washdown), and compressor condensate  
Treatment: package treatment plant, chlorination, and sand filtration  
Location: at the point of discharge from the sand filter, on the west side of the main building, prior to mixing with any other waters  
Flow: 2400 GPD  
Discharge Route: Bayou Braud via HWY 30 drainage ditch, thence into Spanish Lake

### 4. RECEIVING WATERS

STREAM - Bayou Braud via HWY 30 drainage ditch, thence into Spanish Lake

BASIN AND SEGMENT - Lake Pontchartrain Basin, Segment 040201

DESIGNATED USES - a. primary contact recreation  
b. secondary contact recreation  
c. propagation of fish and wildlife

### 5. TMDL STATUS

Subsegment 040201, Bayou Manchac - Headwaters to Amite River, is listed on LDEQ's Final 2006 303(d) List as impaired for ammonia, phosphorus, nitrogen (nitrate + nitrite as N), organic enrichment/low DO, pathogen indicators, chlorides, sulfates, TDS. To date no TMDLs have been completed for this waterbody. A reopener clause will be established in the permit to allow for the requirement of more stringent effluent limitations and requirements as imposed by a TMDL. Until completion of TMDLs for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, those suspected causes for impairment which are not directly attributed to the fabrication and repair shop point source category have been eliminated in the formulation of effluent limitations and other requirements of this permit. Additionally, suspected causes of impairment which could be attributed to pollutants which were not determined to be discharged at a level which would cause, have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above any present state water quality standard were also eliminated.

Outfall 001 has the potential to discharge pollutants associated with the phosphorus, organic enrichment/low DO, pathogen indicators, nitrogen, ammonia, chlorides, TDS, and sulfates impairments. LDEQ's position on nutrients, as supported by the ruling in *Sierra Club v. Givens*, 710 So.2d 249 (La. App. 1st Cir. 1997), writ denied, 705 So.2d 1106 (La. 1998), is that when oxygen-demanding substances are controlled and limited in order to ensure that the dissolved oxygen criterion is supported, nutrients are also controlled and limited. LAC 33:IX.2707.D.1.f.iii allows the establishment of effluent limitations based on an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern. LDEQ's consistent approach to controlling nutrients, where the WQMP does not otherwise require specific nutrient limitations, is achieved by limiting the discharge of oxygen-demanding substances through a BOD<sub>5</sub> limitation. Compliance with the BOD<sub>5</sub> limitation as the indicator parameter will result in the control of nutrients from the discharge sufficient to attain and

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maintain the applicable water quality standard. Additionally, the volume of the discharge is small and should not have a significant impact on the receiving stream. Discharges in compliance with the limits applied in this permit should not cause or further contribute to the phosphorus, nitrogen, organic enrichment/low DO, pathogen indicators, or ammonia impairments. Chlorides, sulfates, and TDS impairments have been attributed to land clearance (land development/redevelopment). Limitations for these parameters shall not be included at this time.

A TMDL study is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2011 by the state, or no later than March 31, 2012 by the EPA.

## 6. PROPOSED EFFLUENT LIMITS

BASIS - See Rationale below.

### Changes from the Existing Permit

The facility no longer discharges non-contact cooling water. There are no changes to the previous permit limitations. Monitoring frequency for BOD<sub>5</sub>, Oil & Grease, TSS, and pH is reduced to quarterly. Monitoring frequency for COD is reduced to semiannually.

## 7. COMPLIANCE HISTORY/COMMENTS

- A. OEC – The facility has no opened, appealed, or pending OES enforcement actions on file as of April 9, 2008. There are no current inspections on file.
- B. DMR Review/Excursions – The facility has reported two permit excursions in the past two years. The facility has not reported monthly average values for COD.

Date	Parameter	Outfall	Reported Value	Permit Limits
Jan-07	COD	001	597 mg/l	150 mg/l
Jan-06	BOD <sub>5</sub>	001	74 mg/l	45 mg/l

Note – Many of the TSS results were marked “retest”, but explanations and/or data for the original test were not submitted.

## 8. EXISTING EFFLUENT LIMITS

Outfall 001 – treated sanitary wastewater, hydrostatic test water, non-contact cooling water, shop water, compressor condensate, and sand filter backwash

Parameter	Monthly Avg (mg/l)	Daily Max (mg/l)	Monitoring Frequency
Flow	Report	Report	Monthly
BOD <sub>5</sub>	---	45 (wkly avg)	Monthly
COD	100	150	Monthly
Fecal Coliform Colonies/100 ml	---	400 (wkly avg)	Semiannually
Oil & Grease	---	15	Monthly
TSS	---	45	Monthly
Visible Sheen	---	No presence	Monthly
pH (su)	6.0 (min)	9.0 (max)	Monthly

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## 9. ENDANGERED SPECIES

The receiving waterbody, Subsegment 040201 of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin is not listed in Section II.2 of the Implementation Strategy as requiring consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). This strategy was submitted with a letter dated October 24, 2007 from Boggs (FWS) to Brown (LDEQ). Therefore, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the LDEQ and the FWS, no further informal (Section 7, Endangered Species Act) consultation is required. The effluent limitations established in the permit ensure protection of aquatic life and maintenance of the receiving water as aquatic habitat. Therefore, the issuance of the LPDES permit is not likely to have an adverse effect on any endangered or candidate species or the critical habitat.

## 10. HISTORIC SITES

The discharge is from an existing facility location, which does not include an expansion on undisturbed soils. Therefore, there should be no potential effect to sites or properties on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and in accordance with the "Memorandum of Understanding for the Protection of Historic Properties in Louisiana Regarding LPDES Permits" no consultation with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer is required.

## 11. TENTATIVE DETERMINATION

On the basis of preliminary staff review, the Department of Environmental Quality has made a tentative determination to issue a permit for the discharge described in the application.

## 12. PUBLIC NOTICES

Upon publication of the public notice, a public comment period shall begin on the date of publication and last for at least 30 days thereafter. During this period, any interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit and may request a public hearing to clarify issues involved in the permit decision at this Office's address on the first page of the statement of basis. A request for a public hearing shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

Public notice published in:

Local newspaper of general circulation

Office of Environmental Services Public Notice Mailing List

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### Rationale for Ohmstede, Ltd

- Outfall 001** - sanitary wastewater, hydrostatic test wastewater, miscellaneous shop wastewater (defined as spot cleaning, cooling spray, and shop floor washdown), and compressor condensate (estimated flow is 2400 GPD)

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Limitation</u> Mo. Avg:Daily Max (mg/l)	<u>Reference</u>
Flow	Report : Report	previous permit
BOD <sub>5</sub>	-- : 45	previous permit
COD	100 : 150	previous permit
Fecal Coliform Colonies/100 ml	-- : 400	previous permit
Oil & Grease	-- : 15	previous permit
Visible Sheen	-- : no presence	previous permit
TSS	-- : 45	previous permit
pH	6.0 su : 9.0 su (min) (max)	previous permit

**Treatment:** package treatment plant with chlorination and sand filter

**Monitoring Frequency:** semiannually for fecal coliform and COD, quarterly for all other parameters

**Limits Justification:** These limits are based on the previous permit. Because of the addition of miscellaneous shop wastewater, 40 CFR 438 – Metals Products and Machinery Point Source Category is applicable. However, the current permit limitations are more stringent and have been retained per LAC 33:IX.2707.L.1. These limits are consistent with limitations assigned to industrial facilities with commingled wastestreams.

The application states that small volumes of silver-bearing wastewaters are generated by x-ray film development. The silver is recovered on-site and sold. Due to the fact that this quantity of wastewater is small and that the facility intends to recover the metal, a silver reporting requirement is not included in this permit.

The facility requested the following three changes:

- Fecal coliform limits changed to a total residual chlorine limit (TRC).

This request is denied. Per LAC 33:IX.1113.C.5 bacteria criteria (fecal coliform limits) are required for discharges of sanitary wastewater to waterbodies designated as primary or secondary contact recreation.

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2. Remove COD limitations based on the premise that potential for contamination from organic chemicals is minimal with the exception of oils. Oil contamination is monitored by visible sheen and oil & grease limits. The facility has had one COD exceedance in the previous four years.

This request is denied based on LAC 33:IX.2707.L.1. However, based on the facility compliance history and required monitoring of other indicator parameters (oil & grease and visible sheen) the monitoring frequency has been reduced to semiannually.

3. Reduce monitoring frequency for BOD<sub>5</sub>, Oil & Grease, TSS, and pH to quarterly.

This request has been granted based on a review of permit compliance history for the previous two years. The facility reported no permit excursions for these parameters. LDEQ also evaluated this discharge as described in the April, 1996, Interim Guidance for Performance-Based Reduction of NPDES Permit Monitoring Frequencies. This facility was required to report daily maximum values for the TSS, Oil & Grease, and pH parameters and a weekly average value for BOD<sub>5</sub> results. The facility was required to sample and report on a monthly basis. For the purposes of this evaluation, the reported values were assumed analogous to monthly average values discharged by the facility. Because the permittee has demonstrated an ability to consistently reduce pollutants in the discharge below the levels necessary to meet existing permit requirements for this outfall, the monitoring frequency has been reduced. Two years of data were reviewed and the composite average of this data was compared to the permit limit to determine the potential monitoring frequency reduction. This Office reserves the right to impose more stringent requirements than those outlined in the performance-based guidance.

\* Existing permits for similar outfalls  
 BPJ Best Professional Judgement  
 su Standard Units

### STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWP3) REQUIREMENT

A SWP3 is included in the permit because in accordance with LAC 33:IX.2511.A.1, storm water discharges shall not be required to obtain an LPDES permit "... except... discharges associated with industrial activity." In accordance with LAC 33:IX.2511.B.14.a-k, facilities classified as SIC code 3443 are considered to have storm water discharges associated with industrial activity.

The SWP3 shall be updated, implemented, and maintained within (6) months of the effective date of the final permit. The plan should identify potential sources of storm water pollution and ensure the implementation of practices to prevent and reduce pollutants in the storm water discharges associated with industrial activity at the facility (see Narrative Requirements for the AI).